



CITY COUNCIL

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
HONOLULU, HAWAII

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE RESPONSE TASK FORCE

MINUTES

FRIDAY, MAY 1, 2015

City Council Committee Room
Honolulu, Hawaii

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Co-Chair Catherine Betts, State Commission on the Status of Women
Co-Chair Larry Lawson, Major, Honolulu Police Department
Dennis Dunn, Victim Witness Kokua Services
Julie Ebato, Department of the Attorney General, Crime Prevention and Justice Assistance Division
Pamela Ferguson-Brey, Crime Victim Compensation Commission
Nicole Kalakau, Department of the Prosecuting Attorney
Val Kalei Kanuha, University of Hawaii
Judy Kawano, Department of Human Services
Maureen Kiehm, Hawaii State Judiciary, First Circuit Court
Nanci Kreidman, Domestic Violence Action Center
Marci Lopes, Hawaii State Coalition Against Domestic Violence
Mary Anne Magnier, Department of the Attorney General, Family Law Division
Shawn Tsuha, Department of Public Safety, Law Enforcement

OTHERS PRESENT:

Councilmember Carol Fukunaga
Keith Horikawa, Honolulu Police Department
Jerry Inouye, Honolulu Police Department
Mark Matsusaka, Honolulu Police Department

The meeting of the Domestic Violence Response Task Force began at 9:34 a.m.

1. The minutes of April 16, 2015 were approved with corrections.

Pamela Ferguson-Brey made a motion to approve the minutes with corrections. Maureen Kiehm seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

2. Discussion and approval of the preliminary report to the Council.

Co-Chair Betts thanked members for assisting her in producing a draft report for discussion and ensured that all members had a copy of the current version. She informed members that she would go through the document section by section and

solicit further input from members. Co-Chair Betts stated that due to the deadline of the preliminary report she would edit and update the report as members discussed it. The following changes to the draft report were discussed:

Major Challenges

Point 1: Nanci Kreidman suggested that references to a strategic plan remain within the scope of the task force and remove specific references to a "state" strategic plan.

Point 3: Maureen Kiehm suggested that further elaboration may be necessary. Other members agreed.

Point 4: Val Kalei Kanuha and Nicole Kalakau suggested replacing "early intervention" with "first response advocacy and education..." to clarify the point. There were no objections.

Point 5: Members agreed that training is a challenge for all interested parties and agreed to change the term "agencies" to "stakeholders" in order to be more inclusive. Members agreed to make similar changes to the other points to include the term "stakeholders." They also agreed that multi-disciplinary cross-training should be referenced.

Point 6: Pamela Ferguson-Brey suggested that child witnesses be added to the point. Ms. Kanuha agreed and suggested the addition of the phrase "insufficient resources." There were no objections.

Point 7: Ms. Kalakau and Ms. Kanuha requested the point emphasize that there are statutory and case law barriers to prosecution without victims. There were no objections.

Point 8: Ms. Kiehm pointed out that different stakeholders have different needs in risk assessment. Members approved clarifying the point to include specialized needs of each user of any risk assessment tool.

Point 9: Julie Ebato and Ms. Kanuha requested that self-assessment point be clarified. The members agreed to specify the point to the "need for voluntary and internal stakeholder self-assessment." The members agreed and also added a reference to stakeholders working with special needs populations.

Members also agreed to add a new point regarding the lack of commitment of leadership to large-scale system reform.

Preliminary Recommendations

Co-Chair Betts stated that she would update any recommendations to reflect the agreed upon changes in the challenges section.

Members agreed to add a point on offender accountability and specify that all stakeholders should be working to enhance perpetrator accountability.

Point 5: Dennis Dunn pointed out that training must also be coordinated and sustainable and tied to a long-term commitment to a policy. There were no objections to adding these concepts to the recommendation.

Mr. Dunn suggested an additional recommendation that the criminal justice system be used as a tool to effectively intervene and offer resources to victims of domestic violence. Members agreed and the point was added by Co-Chair Betts.

Ms. Kalakau added that certain stakeholders may train others across agencies. Ms. Kreidman added that funding and coordination would need to be increased to be truly effective. Co-Chair Betts added this point as an additional recommendation.

Ms. Kreidman asked if there was interest on the task force in ranking or prioritizing any of the recommendations. After some discussion Co-Chair Betts asked members if they had a preference towards prioritizing the recommendations in the preliminary report or not. A majority of members preferred to approve the report as revised at the meeting but without indicated priorities at this time.

3. Announcements

Major Larry Lawson informed members that he had been newly assigned to the Criminal Investigation Division and would replace Major Lester Hite on the Task Force. Major Hite had also been given a new assignment in HPD.

4. Next meeting date

The next task force meeting will be Monday, June 8, 2015, 9:30 a.m. in the Council Committee Room.

5. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:01 a.m.